

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: WWF Tanzania Programme Office

Project Title: Socio-Economic Study of the Udzungwa Scarp Area: A Potential Wildlife Corridor

Implementation Partners for This Project:

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): February 1, 2006 - July 30, 2006

Date of Report (month/year): February 2007

II. OPENING REMARKS

The report gives a summary of the Socio-economic issues for villages around Udzungwa Scarp, Iyondo, Matundu, Nyanganje, Ihanga and Iwonde forest reserves and the 'Idete corridor' forests. The villages covered were Signali, Kiberege Ihanga, Machipi, Kilama, Igima, Mpofu, Mngeta, Njage, Idete Namawala, Mkangawalo, Ikule, Chita and Udagaji .

Generating socio-economic information for incorporating livelihood assessments and options for future management of Udzungwa Forests was one of the priority interventions identified during the Stakeholders consultative workshop held in December 2004 at Oasis Hotel in Morogoro region, Tanzania. The project was addressing CEPF Strategic Direction 1 and 2 namely *Increase the ability of local populations to benefit from, and contribute to biodiversity conservation and enhancing connectivity among fragmented forest patches in the hotspot in and around Udzungwa.*

Udzungwa Scarp Forest Reserve, Iyondo, Matundu, Nyanganje Ihanga, Iwonde forest reserves and the 'Idete corridor' forests form a network of the largest forest blocks of the Udzungwa Mountains of Tanzania. The mountainous ranges contain the greatest coverage of moist forest within the Eastern Arc Mountains that are recognized as part of a globally outstanding biodiversity hotspot together with Coastal forests of Tanzania and Kenya. Besides their biological importance, the reserves contribute significantly to people's livelihoods and socio-economic development of the country. The forests play an important role in maintaining the ecological system through water purification, water catchments, and flood and soil erosion control. The water flowing from these forests supports hydropower generation at Kihansi which is one of the strategic power generation station in the national grid.

The project was also complementing a study on assessing the potential for restoring connectivity and evaluating options for improved management of the Udzungwa Scarp, Iyondo, Matundu and Nyanganje Forest Reserves in the Udzungwa Mountains also funded by CEPF, implemented by Trento Museum in partnership with Tom Struhsaker (Duke University).

A consultant, Mr. Paul Harrision of KILIMANYIKA was hired to carry out the study with technical support from Zakiya M. Aloyce, WWF-TPO Programme Officer. The project was executed for five months beginning May 2006.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. Initial objective of this project

The main objective of the project was to generate socio-economic information for the area including assessing the status of communities living adjacent to the protected areas and to evaluate their capacity and willingness to support greater environmental protection schemes for improving conservation of the target forests and re-establishing connectivity. Specific Objectives were to:

- Measure the levels of awareness so as to determine Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) of the communities including cultural values of local communities living adjacent to the forests and their relationship with conservation work
- Establish households profile for communities living adjacent to the Udzungwa Scarp (household analysis) including capacities to meet their basic needs
- Assess socio-economic (livelihood) activities of the local communities including the land use patterns and practices, levels and patterns of utilisation and dependence on natural resources.
- Assess the existing institutional framework regarding conservation activities in the area and community's intervention strategies for creating a larger and more unified conservation area.

2. Change of objectives during implementation

The objectives of the project remained unchanged

3. Successful in achieving the expected objectives

Activities implemented over the contract period (May- July 2006) were:

- a) Preparation of Terms of References (TORs) and identification of the consultant:** This was the first activity done by the Programme Officer in collaboration with the Conservation Director and Finance Manger. Mr. Paul Harrison, a Socio-economist of KILIMANYIKA was commissioned to carry out the study.
- b) Inception report- description of methodology and literature review:** This was a two days work that was done by the consultant with support from the Programme Officer. This included a review of documents; identification of methodologies for appropriate data collection; design of data collection tools including questionnaires according to target population classification and validation of the sample size.
- c) Field Work:** The field work was carried out for 22 days where different social survey techniques were used. The techniques include: structured and semi-structured interviews, rapid rural appraisal, consultations with stakeholders, observations, collation and analysis of data. Key stakeholders consulted included

- *Local Authority:* 10% of the total population of the 15 villages: (50% women and 50% men), village leaders in 15 villages and the Kilombero District Council
 - *Government Natural Resource Offices:* TANAPA – Udzungwa Mountains National Park, Rufiji Basin Water Office, Iringa; Regional Catchment Forest Office; Regional Catchment Forest Office, Morogoro; Forestry and Beekeeping Division, Dar es Salaam and the Wildlife Division, Dar es Salaam
 - *Private sector - Commercial Stakeholders:* Kilombero Valley Teak Company (KVTC) and the Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) – Kihansi Plant
 - *NGO Stakeholders:* Lower Kihansi Environmental Management Project, Mlimba and the Plan International, Ifakara
- d) **Data Processing and Analysis:** For five days, the consultant did a comprehensive statistical analysis, as well as the analysis of qualitative information and production of the draft report.
- e) **Final Report Production:** This was a two days activity that involved editing and producing the final report. The draft report was distributed to different stakeholders for comments. A socio-economic survey report giving information and recommendations for eventual implementation of biodiversity conservation strategies such as wildlife corridors and protected area expansion from a community perspective was produced.

4. Limitation during implementation

The study was conceived to cover a very large area, the entire southern part of the Udzungwa Mountains stretching. Effective assessment of this area would have required more time and resources. With this limitation, only 15 villages were sampled. Again Within those 15 villages, only two groups of 20 women and 20 men could be interviewed in discussions and 20 individuals per village. The sample size was therefore limited to an estimated 10% of the area's population. The expansiveness of the area also meant a considerable amount of time was lost in traveling between villages

5. Lessons learned from this project

Udzungwa Scarp, Iyondo, Matundu, Nyanganje, Ihangha and Iwonde Forest reserves and the 'Idete Corridor' Forests are of considerable ecological and socio-economic importance. Maintaining the condition of these forests requires strict management regimes. This call for application of adaptive collaborative management including some heavy investments particularly in unblocking the wildlife corridors

Communities living adjacent to the forests under study are neither asset-rich nor self-sufficient enough to not rely on the forests both for subsistence needs as well as income generations. Development of alternative livelihood options will therefore provide incentive for active community engagement in managing the resources.

The main threats identified for these forests that include charcoal burning, shift cultivation, logging, collection of firewood, extraction of medicinal products, all related to population growth can only be managed through land use planning. This again quite critical in that the 'community' comprises of immigrants having different diverse cultural natural resources use perspectives.

6. Follow-up activities related to this project.

The findings of this study were quite interesting and form a very good basis for planning management interventions and impacts tracking in future. A wide dissemination of the findings is recommended including printing and distribution of the report.

The report provides a good background of issues that cut across different sectors and stakeholders. A consultative workshop to review roles and responsibilities of various actors would build ownership of the issues and help develop strategies for intervention.

Some of the socio economic issues including viability of some of the alternative livelihood options would require in-depth analysis. Detailed studies on these are proposed as well as documentation of the ecosystem services of these forests.

7. Additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount (\$)	Notes
NORAD	C	256,500	The funding was made available through WWF Norway to support implementation of land use planning and regeneration of degraded forests in some parts of the Southern Udzungwa
CEPF		12,200	Additional funding secured to cover a stakeholders workshop to review follow up intervention as a result of a stakeholders consultative meeting held in December 2004 through CEPF funding

**Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:*

- A** Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)
- B** Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)
- C** Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)
- D** Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study was successfully done but this is a long-term project that needs big investment including awareness creation, provision of alternative livelihoods and lobbying to the government. NGOs need to collaborate to support this and promote collaborative adaptive management.

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

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